

application also includes an allowable claim generic to all the claimed species and all the claims to species in excess of one are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the limitations of the generic claim.

Applicant asserts that Claim 1 of the present invention is a generic claim to all the claimed species and that all the claims to the identified species in excess of one are written in dependent form and include all the limitations of generic Claim 1. As such, Applicant should be entitled to consideration of claims to the additional identified species not elected at this time.

Additionally, the Office contends that the application contains claims directed to 5 distinct species of the claimed invention. However, the Office has previously classified all of the claims reading on the identified species, 1-5, as belonging to class 604, subclass 20. As such, Applicant believes that the application discloses and claims various alternative embodiments of the invention, all of which exist within the same classification and therefore it would not be considered unreasonable or unduly burdensome for the Examiner to examine each of the disclosed and claimed species in the application as filed.

If an Examiner's Amendment would place the pending claims in condition for allowance, a telephone call to the undersigned at (727) 507-8558 is requested.

Very respectfully,
SMITH & HOPEN

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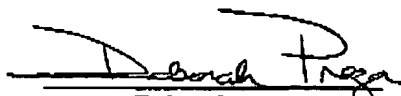
Dated: April 1, 2003

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

(37 C.F.R. 1.8)

I HEREBY CERTIFY that this Response to Election/Restriction Requirement is being transmitted by facsimile to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Group Art Unit 3763, Attn: Michael J. Hayes, (703) 872-9302 on April 1, 2003.

Dated: April 1, 2003


Deborah